

OPINION 878***APHELENCHUS STEUERI STEFAŃSKI, 1916 (NEMATODA): REFUSAL TO SUPPRESS UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS***

RULING.—The use of the plenary powers to suppress the specific name *steueri* Stefański, 1916, as published in the binomen *Aphelenchus steueri*, is hereby refused.

HISTORY OF THE CASE (Z.N.(S.) 1698)

The present case was submitted to the office of the Commission by Dr. S. A. Sher in April 1965. Dr. Sher's application was sent to the printer on 20 May 1965 and was published on 13 August 1965 in *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 22 : 195. Public Notice of the possible use of the plenary powers in the present case was given in the same part of the *Bulletin* as well as to the other prescribed serial publications (Constitution Art. 12b; *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 21 : 184).

The application was supported by Dr. A. Morgan Golden and opposed by Dr. William G. Inglis (*Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 22 : 273). Dr. L. B. Holthuis pointed out (in litt.) that Dr. Sher was mistaken in stating that *Aphelenchus steueri* was proposed as a synonym.

DECISION OF THE COMMISSION

On 20 July 1967 the Members of the Commission were invited to vote under the Three-Month Rule on Voting Paper (67)33 either for or against the proposal set out in *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 22 : 195. At the close of the prescribed voting period on 20 October 1967 the state of the voting was as follows:

Affirmative votes—four (4), received in the following order: Vokes, Mayr, Tortonese, Uchida.

Negative votes—eighteen (18): China, Holthuis, Sabrosky, Lemche, Evans, Obruchev, Boschma, Brinck, Simpson, Munroe, do Amaral, Jaczewski, Mertens, Kraus, Binder, Alvarado, Ride, Forest.

Voting Papers not returned—one (1): Hubbs.

Commissioner Bonnet returned a late affirmative vote. The following comments were made by Commissioners in returning their votes:

Dr. L. B. Holthuis (28.vii.67): "Dr. Sher's proposal does not make it clear how 'widely used' the name *buxophilus*, that was proposed as late as 1956, actually is. Without more data on this point I cannot vote in favour of this proposal."

Dr. Henning Lemche (3.viii.67): "The species *Aphelenchus steueri* Stefański, 1916, does not appear to have been convincingly established as identical to *Rotylenchus buxophilus*. Therefore, it would appear improper from the present evidence to take any action in the case. The former species is still a *nomen dubium*."

CERTIFICATE

We certify that the votes cast on Voting Paper (67)33 were cast as set out above, that the proposal contained in that Voting Paper has not been adopted

and that the decision so taken, being the decision of the International Commission, is truly recorded in the present Opinion 878.

R. V. MELVILLE
Secretary

International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature

W. E. CHINA
Assistant Secretary

London
29 January 1969